

What is claimed is:

1. A reminiscence data base system comprising:

a question database comprising stored question text formats, the question text formats comprising question texts for stimulating or prompting a user's reminiscence and a variable component having attributes;

a response data base comprising stored replies to said question texts together with attributes of said replies;

a question text generating mechanism which reads at least one question text format from said question database, reads responses which match variable component and attributes of the question text format from said response database, and fills the responses in variable components which match attributes of the question text format, generating question texts, and outputs the question texts to said telecommunications mechanism;

a response output mechanism which converts responses from the response databases into a specified format; and

a telecommunications mechanism which outputs question texts from the question database to a user, obtains replies to question texts from said user, and outputs responses from the response output mechanism.

2. The reminiscence data base system of claim 1 wherein said attributes of the question text format are indicated by XML tags, and said response database stores responses as XML files.

3. The reminiscence data base system of claim 1 further comprising a response output control mechanism, which obtains from said user an indication of whether to permit or not permit disclosure of responses stored in said response database, and

only passes responses for which disclosure has been authorized to said response output mechanism .

4. The reminiscence data base system of claim 3 wherein said response output control mechanism controls said authorization of whether or not to disclose in attribute units linked to a response.
5. The reminiscence data base system of claim 1 wherein said question text generating mechanism selects differing question text formats corresponding to responses expressing an emotional level of a user from among the responses stored in said response storage mechanism.
6. The reminiscence data base system of claim 1, further comprising a multi-media linking mechanism which stores maps, photographs or the like, corresponding with a response in the response database, in association with attributes of the response.
7. The reminiscence data base system of claim 1 which further comprises
 - a comment receiving mechanism which receives comments from a party other than said user which has obtained a response output from said response output mechanism, the comments concerning a response, or the person making said response;
 - a comment database which stores said comment in association with said person making a response; and
 - said response output mechanism converts said comment in addition to said response into a specified format.
8. A computer readable medium which has recorded a reminiscence support program for the purpose of causing a computer to execute a method comprising the steps of:
 - a) outputting question texts to a user;
 - b) obtaining replies to question texts from the user;

c) creating and storing a data base of replies to said question texts together with attributes of said replies;

d) reading question text formats from said question text format storage mechanism, reading responses which match variable components and attributes of this question text format from said response storage mechanism, filling the read responses in variable components which match attributes of question text formats, generating question texts; and

e) repeating the method from step a, using question texts generated in step d.

9. The method of claim 8, in which the steps of outputting question texts and obtaining replies are performed through a telecommunications mechanism.